

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WAIS Inc

Wide Area Information Servers

**WAIS INC. PARTNERS WITH CMP PUBLICATIONS TO
BUILD TECHWEB ON-LINE SERVICE ON INTERNET**

New Service Provides Internet Access To 17 CMP Publications

MENLO PARK, Calif. November 18, 1994 — Wide Area Information Servers (WAIS), Inc. based in Menlo Park, Calif. today announced the launch of CMP Publications' new on-line Internet service called *TechWeb* which uses the WAIS On-Line Publishing System together with the World Wide Web to provide Internet access to all 17 CMP publications, including Windows Magazine, Open Systems Today, Computer Reseller News, and more. Working with the CMP Interactive Media Group, the WAIS Production Services Group designed and implemented TechWeb for CMP Publications.

CMP is debuting TechWeb at Comdex.

WAIS Inc. develops and markets the WAIS On-line Publishing System to organizations who wish to publish information over the Internet. WAIS Inc. also has a Production Services Group which partners with publishers to build on-line services that employ the WAIS technology.

Together with Jerry Colonna, Director of the CMP Interactive Media Group, the WAIS Production Services Group leveraged the existing organization and publishing processes and built an Internet-based on-line service that allows CMP to add the latest editorial for all publications on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis.

The TechWeb on-line service also has custom features such as on-line qualification cards, on-line reader feedback and media kit requests, and an automated reader registration, subscription, and authorization system that includes usage statistics to aid in planning and advertising sales.

The WAIS On-line Publishing System was implemented to make existing editorial content searchable with intuitive, natural language queries, extending the capabilities of point-and-click

clients such as Mosaic. "The WAISserver is the power behind the World Wide Web," said Bruce Gilliat, Vice President of Sales and Marketing at WAIS Inc. "It allows publishers to update their content continuously and make it available to users without the expense of building individual World Wide Web documents for each story, and it allows users to specify exactly what they are looking for and to view the stories in a rich, hypertext environment."

"The significance of TechWeb goes well beyond simply putting up a series of linked home pages," said Jerry Colonna, Director of CMP Interactive Media. "TechWeb used the WAIS technology to make information available in the most accessible way possible. Even more, WAIS Inc. helped us translate the traditional publishing process into the new on-line environment, building a workable production system for developing fast and effective interactive products and services. Their hard work, dedication, and talent helped turn our vision into a reality."

The URL for the TechWeb service is <http://techweb.cmp.com/techweb>.

Said WAIS Inc. President Brewster Kahle, "WAIS Inc. is pleased to have such a distinguished publishing partner as CMP Publications. We believe that the TechWeb service is one of the most forward-looking publishing developments on the Internet, and that it demonstrates the power of WAIS On-line Publishing System and the World Wide Web to make existing content accessible to millions of Internet users. The WAIS Production Services Group worked together with Jerry Colonna and his team to get TechWeb up and running in just a few months, and we're extremely proud of the end result."

CMP Publications, Inc. is a leading high-tech publishing, marketing and information services company reaching the entire spectrum of the market: the builders, the sellers and the users of technology. The company's 17 publications include HomePC, Windows Magazine, Computer Reseller News, and NetGuide, a guide to cyberspace which will be available on newsstands the 22nd of November.

WAIS Inc. is headquartered in Menlo Park, Calif. Contact WAIS Inc. at 1040 Noel Drive, Menlo Park, Calif. 94025. Call 415/617-0444, fax 415/327-6513, or e-mail WAIS Inc. at info@wais.com. The home page for WAIS Inc is located at URL: <http://www.wais.com>

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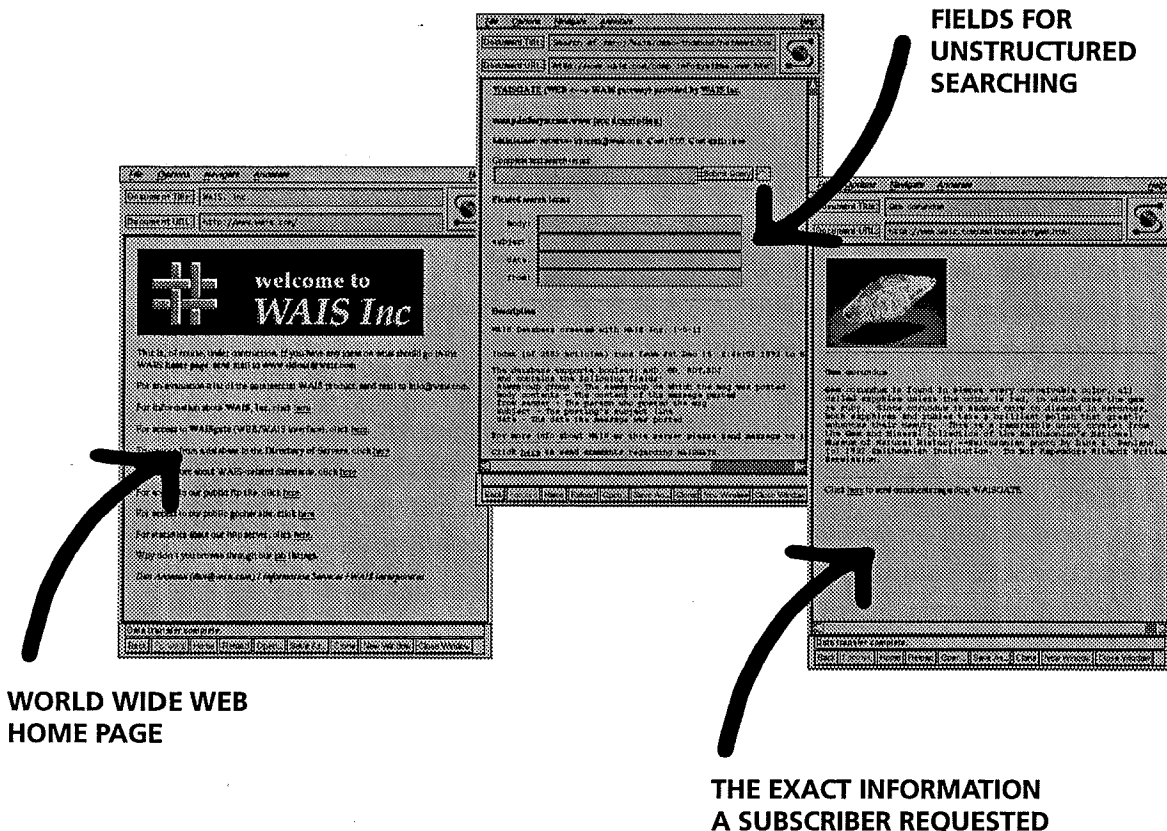
Introducing WAIS

Power Tools for Professional On-line Publishers

WAIS™ (Wide Area Information Servers™) is the leading search and retrieval software in the on-line publishing industry. The WAIS on-line publishing system allows users to find information over a computer network by simply asking questions. The questions may be expressed in natural language or Boolean syntax, and the information sources may be local, or distributed databases around the world.

In the Internet environment, WAIS allows the on-line publisher to take existing content and make it available to customers without costly HTML coding. Combined with a client program such as Mosaic, WAIS allows you to offer your subscribers flexible, unstructured document searching to complement the structured Mosaic/World Wide Web environment.

What's WAIS About This Picture?



WAIS Inc.
Wide Area Information Servers

WAISserver 2.0 Features

Release 2.0 of the WAISserver by WAIS Inc. features a comprehensive set of enhancements and new features that extend the reach of the original product for professional on-line publishers.

ON-LINE PUBLISHING FEATURES

- ★ **Incremental Indexing**
Now you can add new information to the database without re-indexing the entire database, for on-line publishers who have data that feeds in daily or even several times daily.
- ★ **Date Range Searching**
Now your subscribers can search for date ranges in order to have more precise control over timely information.
- ★ **Document Deletion**
Now you can delete documents from a WAIS database without reindexing, giving flexibility and power to active on-line services.

LARGE DATABASE FEATURES

- ★ **Multiple Databases**
Now databases can span multiple disks and be quickly updated via an index, letting you integrate widely disparate information sources without stopping the on-line flow of information to your subscribers.
- ★ **Database Integration**
Now your subscribers can access documents stored in traditional databases such as Oracle and Sybase without your having to reindex or rearchitect your system, allowing you to respond fast to information requests with a minimum of engineering intervention.

OPEN PROTOCOLS

- ★ **z39.50 Version 2 Support**
Now the WAISserver supports the latest version of the z39.50 protocol, the standard search protocol. WAISserver is backward compatible to older versions.
- ★ **GILS Support**
Coming first quarter of 1995.

CONNECTIVITY ENHANCEMENTS

- ★ **New WAISsearch Client (waislookup)**
WAISsearch is freeware and has historically been hard to support. WAISserver release 2.0 now contains a client that supports most basic freeware. This new client is the only client that currently supports the z39.50 Version 2 protocol.
- ★ **WAISgate Integration**
WAISgate is now integrated into the WAISserver package.

SEARCH ENHANCEMENTS

- ★ **Literal Search**
Now subscribers can search for literal phrases, such as "White House Protocol," or "US Foreign Policy in Latin America."
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